

First Parish Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
P.O. Box 114, 47 East Derry Road
East Derry, New Hampshire 03041
Tel. (603) 434 – 0628

June 17, 2018 Proper 6



ALL ARE WELCOME

*“Friend, you enter this church not as a stranger, but as a guest of God.
Come, then, with joy in your heart and thanks upon your lips,
and offer God today your love and your service.”*

(Adapted from a 12th Century Church in Hampshire, England)

**WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD THIS 17th DAY of JUNE
FATHER'S DAY**

LIGHTING THE CHRIST LIGHT

Acolyte: Alyssa Carvalho, Laila Barcomb

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS; SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS

*HYMN: #304 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand in body or Spirit.)

One: Let us gather to give thanks and rejoice in God's faithfulness.

Many: We pour out our thanks in songs of praise.

One: Our Creating God increases our strength of soul.

Many: Great is the glory of our God- let us rejoice!

*INVOCATION (unison)

Our Souls wait for you, O God. Our ears are attentive to your Word. Let this time of gathering draw us together in unity, with a sense of direction and purpose for our church and our individual lives. Renew us within so that nothing we face in this world can undermine our faith or cause us to despair. Claim us all as sisters and brothers of Jesus Christ, and help us to reflect this kinship in all we do or say. Amen.

***SONG OF PRAISE #759**

Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit, Three-in-One; As it is in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

WE INVITE FORWARD GOD'S YOUNGER DISCIPLES

At this time, all children are invited to come forward for the children's offering, and children's time. An offering is not required for participation. All are welcome, especially first time visitors.

CHILDREN'S OFFERING

I'm Going to Sing When the Spirit Says Sing!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

In our hearts these gifts we bring; for you give us everything. Teach us how to follow you; in all we say and all we do. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Sarah Keller

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory forever. Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

OLD TESTAMENT: I Samuel 8:4-20 (11:14-15)

GOSPEL: Mark 3:20-35

SERMON: The message this morning will be a "conversation" between a beloved Hymn and three fathers who will offer reflections this Father's Day.

237: "I Come to the Garden Alone" verse 1 (Please remain seated.)

Reflection by Ryan Lehoullier

237: "I Come to the Garden Alone" verse 2 (Please remain seated.)

Reflection by Bart Wetherbee

237: "I Come to the Garden Alone" verse 3 (Please remain seated.)

Reflection by Steve Davis

237: "I Come to the Garden Alone" verse 1 (Please remain seated.)

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

CHOIR ANTHEM The Storm is Passing Over (Tindley)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CHORAL PRAYER

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

Many of our resources are committed to time payments, taxes, rent, or mortgages. Our need for food, shelter, and clothing take precedence in our lives. The more and more affluent we become the more we confuse our "wants" with "needs". Where is our thanksgiving to God in all this? And where is our commitment to love God and neighbor as ourselves? Let us give in proportion to our faith. The morning offering will now be received.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*DOXOLOGY #780 - Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, you heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Thank you, God, for your faithfulness. We bring ourselves and some of what we have accumulated to praise you and to do the work you call us to do. Fulfill your purpose for this church as you enlist our offerings and our lives. In our labors for you, we will not lose heart as you help us to do your will. Amen.

WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE A LOVING, SERVING GOD

*HYMN: # 418 My Faith, It is an Oaken Staff

BLESSING

BLESSING RESPONSE

POSTLUDE (Please remain seated during the Postlude)

**Indicates all that are able may stand.*

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH

Members of the Congregation

DEACONS OF THE MONTH

Julie Turner, Sue Lindemann

LAY READER:

Fred Merrill

USHERS

Becky Fleury, Verna Elwell, Sue Lindemann

GREETER

Carol Guerrin

SENIOR PASTOR AND TEACHER

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Susan Handy

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Christine Lehoullier

ACCOMPANIST/ORGANIST

Chris Ferrin

INTERIM ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Michelle Guerrin

WORSHIP LEADER

Diana Sweeney

I Samuel 8:4-20

⁴ Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, ⁵ and said to him, “You are old and your sons do not follow in your ways; appoint for us, then, a king to govern us, like other nations.” ⁶ But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, “Give us a king to govern us.” Samuel prayed to the LORD, ⁷ and the LORD said to Samuel, “Listen to the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. ⁸ Just as they have done to me, ^[a] from the day I brought them up out of Egypt to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so also they are doing to you. ⁹ Now then, listen to their voice; only—you shall solemnly warn them, and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them.” ¹⁰ So Samuel reported all the words of the LORD to the people who were asking him for a king. ¹¹ He said, “These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen, and to run before his chariots; ¹² and he will appoint for himself commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and some to plow his ground and to reap his harvest, and to make his implements of war and the equipment of his chariots. ¹³ He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers. ¹⁴ He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive orchards and give them to his courtiers. ¹⁵ He will take one-tenth of your grain and of your vineyards and give it to his officers and his courtiers. ¹⁶ He will take your male and female slaves, and the best of your cattle ^[b] and donkeys, and put them to his work. ¹⁷ He will take one-tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his

slaves. ¹⁸ And in that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves; but the LORD will not answer you in that day.”

¹⁹ But the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel; they said, “No! but we are determined to have a king over us, ²⁰ so that we also may be like other nations, and that our king may govern us and go out before us and fight our battles.”

I Samuel 11:14-15

⁴ Samuel said to the people, “Come, let us go to Gilgal and there renew the kingship.” ¹⁵ So all the people went to Gilgal, and there they made Saul king before the LORD in Gilgal. There they sacrificed offerings of well-being before the LORD, and there Saul and all the Israelites rejoiced greatly.

Mark 3:20-35

²⁰ and the crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat. ²¹ When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, “He has gone out of his mind.” ²² And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, “He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.” ²³ And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? ²⁴ If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵ And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. ²⁶ And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. ²⁷ But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered. ²⁸ “Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; ²⁹ but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”— ³⁰ for they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.”

³¹ Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. ³² A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers and sisters^[a] are outside, asking for you.” ³³ And he replied, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” ³⁴ And looking at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵ Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.”